

**OFFICIAL FILE**

**ORIGINAL**

**ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION**

00-0483  
Bench Date: July 6, 2000

**CONSUMER SERVICES DIVISION STAFF REPORT**

June 20, 2000

**SUBJECT: SBC/Ameritech Merger Condition -- Community Technology Fund**

**Capsule Summary**

On September 23, 1999, the Illinois Commerce Commission ("Commission") entered an order in Docket No. 98-0555, approving the merger of SBC Communications ("SBC") and Ameritech Corporation ("Ameritech"). On October 6, 1999, an order approving the merger was adopted by the Federal Communications Commission and on October 8, 1999, the merger was consummated.

**Background**

The Commission's Order approving the merger included 32 conditions that SBC/Ameritech would have to meet or implement. Two merger conditions, Nos. 9 and 10, which were voluntarily commitments offered by SBC/Ameritech to establish a Community Technology Fund ("CTF") and Community Computer Center, respectively.

On March 1, 2000, the Commission entered an order in Docket No. 00-0195, naming the following people to the CTF Committee:

**American Association of Retired People (AARP) (Donna Ginser)**

Represents senior citizens nationwide through membership input and policy analysis by regularly monitoring the needs, concerns and opinions of its members.

**Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) (William Conrad)**

ISBE offers statewide representation for educational institutions. ISBE implemented the Universal Service e-rate program linking local schools and other public agencies to the internet. ISBE also has a vast knowledge in issuing and awarding grants.

**Rural Partners (Paul Galligos)**

A member-driven forum that links individuals, businesses, organizations and communities with public and private resources to maximize the potential of rural Illinois.

**Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities in Illinois (Matt Abrahamson)**

The Coalition is a grassroots organization of individuals, groups and organizations to be a catalyst to promote and advocate for the full and equal participation of all individuals with disabilities in society at the local, state and national levels.

**Community Workshop on Economic Development (Johnnie Cole)**

A organization that works to build coalitions and collaborations on Empowerment Zones, Tax Increment Financing Program, and the Alternative City Budge project and was one of the intervenors in the Ameritech/SBC merger.

**Policy Research and Action Group (Martin Mercado)**

A community/university action-research collaborative that has developed a research project on community technology centers, schools, and libraries and the quality of access.

**Illinois Small Business Utility Advocate (Vincent Gilbert)**

Appointed by former Governor Edgar to represent small businesses throughout the state of Illinois. Mr. Gilbert has a strong background in policy issues relating to community development, business, law, finance, and an extensive broadcasting experience, currently hosting is own Cable TV Program, "Ask the Advocate."

**Citizens Utility Board (CUB) (Jonathan Goldman)**

CUB serves as a voice for residential and small business utility ratepayers. CUB is a non-partisan, non-profit statewide organization, funded solely by Illinois ratepayers.

**Governor's Office (Mary Reynolds)**

Governor Ryan's Chief Technology Officer

**Ameritech (Fred Miri)**

**Illinois Commerce Commission (Cindy Jackson)**

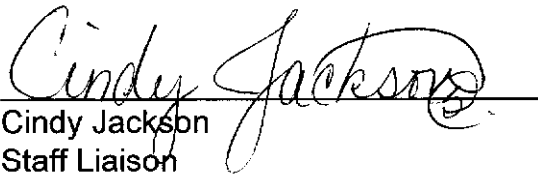
In Docket No. 00-0336 on May 10, 2000, the Commission approved replacing William Conrad from the ISBE with Ricardo Tostado from the ISBE.

Matt Abrahamson from the Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities in Illinois contacted Staff and requested that Wilhelmina Gunther from the Illinois Assistive Technology Project (IATP) replace him on the CTF Committee. Mr. Abrahamson is the Executive Director Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities in Illinois and Wilhelmina Gunther is the Executive Director of the IATP. The IATP helps people find the types of assistive technology that they need and provide training on the technology, but cannot purchase the necessary devices.

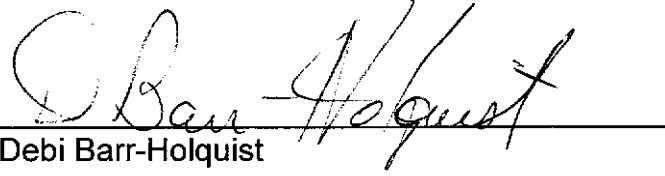
Staff respectfully requests that the Commission approve the Resolution attached to this report to implement the CTF and CCC membership change.

Submitted by:

Reviewed and approved



Cindy Jackson  
Staff Liaison  
Consumer Services Division



Debi Barr-Holquist  
Manager  
Consumer Services Division